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20 March 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, [REDACTED]

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ATTENTION

: Mr. [REDACTED]

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SUBJECT

: Reports on the East German Economy

1. In accordance with your request, we have prepared the following four reports on the East German Economy:

- a. East Germany: Planned Economy
- b. East German Foreign Trade: Political not Economic
- c. Soviet Discipline Regiments East German Worker
- d. Low Standard of Living in East Germany

2. These reports are intended to serve as background for the publication of articles in [REDACTED]. They point out that East Germany has a planned economy dominated by the Soviet Union, which aims to exploit the East German economy to further its own military and political aims. As a consequence, the East German worker is disciplined in accordance with the Soviet model and has to put up with a low standard of living. The foreign trade is guided by political rather than economic considerations and has as its main objective the strengthening of the Soviet economy.

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3. We are only forwarding one copy of the above reports. Two hundred fifty copies of each of the reports will be made available to you as soon as they are completed by the Reproduction Unit.

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Chief, [REDACTED]

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Attachments:

As stated above

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